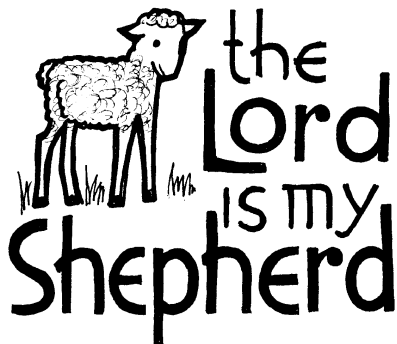




Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

**26th April 2015
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



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**Also in Residence
Bishop John Crowley
– Retired.**

When something acquires a label it can be relegated to a pigeonhole. The label itself is imagined to convey knowledge of the thing it labels. Today is Good Shepherd Sunday which is one such label. Obviously it takes its name from Jesus's discourse in John's Gospel. But where does this come from? Is it from the Last Supper discourses which we will read on the next couple of weeks? Read it in the Bible. It is the end of the story of the man born blind; the image of the shepherd is introduced as a parable which the 'blind' pharisees fail to understand. Jesus explains it at length and today's words are part of that explanation. What does a good shepherd do? He protects the flock from the wolf by putting his life on the line; he leads other sheep from other folds, to make one flock. It remains a metaphor, though.

The Psalm takes up another metaphor, the cornerstone, and the Second Reading calls us the children of God, another way of talking of the flock.

SMILE LINES

Blessing

It was the five year old boy's first trip down to the Communion rail at church. Fascinated, he watched the vicar place a wafer in the palm of each person kneeling before him. When the vicar reached the little boy, he ignored the child's outstretched palm, and laid his hand on the child's head in a gentle blessing instead.

The boy, utterly bewildered, whispered to his father in a piercing voice; "He's put it on my head!"
* * * * *

Night-time

How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark, to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?
* * * * *

Did you know....?

The first motorist to be fined for speeding in the UK was Walter Arnold in 1896. He was doing 8mph in a 2mph zone.
* *

All polar bears are Irish. They're descended from brown bears that lived in Ireland over 10,000 years ago.
* *

The Archbishop of Manila from 1974 – 2003 was called Cardinal Sin.
* *

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 10.30am - 11.00am and after the 6.00pm Mass.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 25th April

10.00am John Fox Ints.

6.00pm Sarah Sherwood (RIP)

Sunday 26th April FOURTH OF EASTER

8.30am Intention of Bertie Kearns.

9.45am 1. Margaret Purtill (RIP) Aniv.

2. Intention of Patricia Hagan

11.30am Ernesto & Alceste Bortoli (RIP) Anniv.

Monday 27th April

9.15am Irene Chau (RIP)

Tuesday 28th April

9.15am Holy Souls

Wed. 29th April ST.CATHERINE of SIENA

9.15am Jacquely Ball (RIP)

Thursday 30th April

11.00am Intention of Alan Thomas

Friday 1st May

9.15am Kathy Ludlow (RIP) Rec. Dec.

Saturday 2nd May

10.00am The People of the Parish

6.00pm Frank Lawson (RIP)

Sunday 3rd May

8.30am Raynah Watson (RIP) Anniv.

9.45am Molly, Monica & Ted Allen (RIP)

11.30am Dorothy Delaney (RIP)

QUOTE - Pope Francis

The path of Christian courage is a grace given by the Holy Spirit. There are so many paths that we can take that also give us a certain amount of courage. But look at that brave decision he (Nicodemus) has taken! And look at this one: look how he laid out this plan well, organized things, [bravo]! This helps, but it is an instrument of something bigger: the Spirit. If there is no Spirit, we can do many things, much work, but it is not of any use."